



**NORTHAMPTON LICENSE COMMISSION**  
City Hall, Office of the Mayor  
210 Main St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Northampton, MA 01060  
(413) 587-1212

COMMISSIONERS

Natasha Yakovlev, Chair  
Helen Kahn

Executive Assistant

Annie Lesko  
[alesko@northamptonma.gov](mailto:alesko@northamptonma.gov)

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**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, January 18, 2022**  
**Virtual Meeting**  
**3:00 p.m.**

The January 18, 2022, License Commission meeting was held via remote participation.

**Join Virtual Meeting**

- **Video Conference:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87689219188?pwd=V09QazQ1dmFkZzRiZ3RxaWdzOENhZz09>

**OR**

- **Telephone, call:** +1-929-436-2866, Meeting ID: 876 8921 9188, Password: 646525

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** by Commissioner Yakovlev at 3:02 p.m.  
**ROLL CALL** - Commissioners Yakovlev and Kahn were both present  
**ANNOUNCEMENT OF ZOOM RECORDING** made by Commissioner Yakovlev
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None
3. **PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FOR A NEW ALL ALCOHOL RESTAURANT LICENSE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 109 OF THE ACTS OF 2016**  
Rias Baixas, LLC d/b/a Homestead.  
5-7 Strong Avenue

**Commissioner Yakovlev moved to open the public hearing at 3:03 p.m. Commissioner Kahn seconded and the public hearing was opened.**

There was no public comment.

Jeremy Werther was present for this application and noted that he is the new sole owner of Rias Baixas, LLC d/b/a Homestead. and is applying to replace the existing license held by the same entity with a different DBA. On January 3, 2022, Jeremy surrendered the license held by Ibiza Tapas and is now applying for the same license using the DBA Homestead.

Commissioner Yakovlev read the following conditions that will be placed on the license:

*This License was issued pursuant to a special act entitled "An Act Authorizing the City of Northampton to Grant Additional Licenses for the Sale of All Alcoholic Beverages to be Drunk on the Premises," c. 109 of the Acts of 2016 ("c. 109"). In accordance with c. 109, this License is subject to the following conditions:*

1. *This License is issued to Rias Baixas, LLC only. Any transfer or attempt to transfer this License to an entity other than Rias Baixas, LLC shall constitute a cessation of the licensed business.*

*Upon cessation this License shall be subject to cancellation and reissuance pursuant to M.G.L. c. 138, sec. 77 and c. 109, sec. (1) (c).*

2. *This License is issued for the operation of the business known as "Homestead." The operation of any business on the premises by any other name or style shall constitute a cessation of the licensed business. Upon cessation this License shall be subject to cancellation and reissuance pursuant to M.G.L. c. 138, sec. 77 and c. 109, sec. (1) (c).*
3. *This License is issued subject to all other terms and conditions of c. 109.*

**Commissioner Yakovlev moved to close the public hearing at 3:08 p.m. Commissioner Kahn seconded and the public hearing was closed.**

**Commissioners Yakovlev moved to approve the application for a new all alcohol restaurant license pursuant to chapter 109 of the acts of 2016 to Rias Baixas, LLC d/b/a Homestead. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion passed unanimously 2-0 by a roll call vote.**

**4. APPLICATION FOR A NEW COMMON VICTUALLER LICENSE**

NoHo Social, LLC d/b/a NoHo Social Coffee Shop & Speakeasy  
261 King Street

Tom Kasper, proprietor of NoHo Social; Attorney Puciloski and manager Kara Schulz were all present for this application. Kara noted that as of right now the plan is to have a coffee shop by day and a speakeasy by evening. There will be specialty coffee and pastries offered in the morning and in the evening they will have small bites and appetizers and specialty cocktails. The coffee shop will be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the speakeasy will be open from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. The hope is to have a soft opening for the first or second week in February with a hard opening later in February.

**Commissioner Kahn moved to approve the new common victualler license for NoHo Social, LLC d/b/a NoHo Social Coffee Shop & Speakeasy. Commissioner Yakovlev seconded. The motion passed unanimously 2-0 by a roll call vote.**

**5. APPLICATION FOR A NEW COMMON VICTUALLER LICENSE**

Trifecta, LLC d/b/a Pokemoto  
18 Main Street

RJ Schmidt was present for this application and stated that he is one of three partners that have built a franchise with 20 locations, 14 being in New England and the Northampton location being the 21st. The concept is fast casual, sushi-based with poke and adding salad crafts for vegetarians and whole fruit iced teas and iced coffees. Operating hours will be 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., 6 days a week and closing at 8 p.m. on Sundays. Opening will be at the end of March, beginning of April, after the build out and training are complete.

**Commissioner Yakovlev moved to approve the application for a new common victualler license for Trifecta, LLC d/b/a Pokemoto. Commissioner Kahn seconded. The motion passed unanimously 2-0 by a roll call vote.**

**6. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**7. ADJOURN**

**Commissioner Yakovlev moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:17 p.m. Commissioner Kahn seconded and the motion passed unanimously 2-0 by a roll call vote.**